













Fairmont Farm Inc. Conservation Practices

What works – What's new –What's challenging





What Works





No-till Corn





No-till alfalfa
seeding





Getting Started





The Planter

- Closing wheels
- New double disk openers and scraper
- Row cleaners
- No-till coulter(optional)
- Drag chains (optional)
- Check depth
- Rebuild meters



- Thompson closing wheels off-set
- Liquid nitrogen tube





Drag chain with single spiked
closing wheel



- Liquid nitrogen bracket
- Build up on closing wheel





- Kinze row cleaners
- No no-till disk



The Land

1st year corn into sod

- Terminate in fall
- Terminate early spring
- Take 1st cut then plant and spray





2nd yr. and beyond

- Well established cover crop
- Spread manure fall or spring
- Plant into green cover
- Spray 5 to 7 days after planting
- 1 or 2 spray system depending on timing and cost





- Planting all RR corn with stacked traits and poncho 1250
- Planting populations at 36000





Benefits seen w/no-till

- Increased our spring efficiency
- Soils absorbs and retains water better
- Nutrient retention
- More consistent yields
- Allows us to reduce soil loss and choose our own rotations on HEL land





What's New and Challenging





Double cropping





Added more complexity to
spring





Using 30 lbs liquid n
through planter



- Seeded alfalfa into rye early spring
- Harder to dry straw
- Lost straw yield where alfalfa was tall had to keep head up
- Had some heating in the back of the pile effected germination on rye



Positive notes and changes for next year

- Great pic of the kids
- Will seed the field in August after the rye is harvested
- Aerate the pile regardless





Morning shop gathering
and data collection





Soil compaction what were doing

- Flotation tires
- More off loading with Semi trailers and swing booms
- Frac tank
- Crop rotation
- Cover cropping



Compaction



Radial floater wears well
handles weight and road
travel well. Expensive and
not for traction





Another floater less
expensive better traction
doesn't wear well and
doesn't like road travel and
weight



Frac Tank

- Positioning is critical to prevent compaction



Fall spreading

- Tankers staying on road
- 2 tractor spreaders in field





2014 Summary

- Late planted
- Grew well with 0 replants
- Looked very healthy on July 4





- Exceptionally tall corn
- Frosted early!
- Ear development stalled



Calender said we
couldn't wait
anymore



- Results were big piles
- Low starch



- Every year brings us a new challenge
- Looking forward to 2015 cropping season

